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Summary prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21

Costa Rica*

Summary

The present report is a summary of 10 stakeholders' submissions[1] to the universal periodic review. It follows the general guidelines adopted by the Human Rights Council in its decision 17/119. It does not contain any opinions, views or suggestions on the part of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), nor any judgement or determination in relation to specific claims. The information included herein has been systematically referenced in endnotes and, to the extent possible, the original texts have not been altered. As provided for in Resolution 16/21 of the Human Rights Council, where appropriate, a separate section is provided for contributions by the national human rights institution of the State under review that is accredited in full compliance with the Paris Principles. The full texts of all submissions received are available on the OHCHR website. The report has been prepared taking into consideration the periodicity of the review and developments during that period.

* The present document was not edited before being sent to United Nations translation services.

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I. Information provided by the accredited national human rights institution of the State under review in full compliance with the Paris Principles

1. The Ombudsman's Office was consulted on the preparation of the plan to combat racism and racial discrimination, (recommendation 91.1[2]), a process during which the need to design a national policy[3] was recognized.

2. The efforts of LGBTI organizations have been supported (recommendation 89.16[4]); however, progress has come primarily through the rulings of the Constitutional Chamber of the Supreme Court.[5] The Ombudsman's Office points to a lack of political will to recognize and regulate same-sex unions.[6] Although in 2011, the Constitutional Chamber declared unconstitutional the phrase "of a different gender" in article 66 of the Technical Regulations of the Penitentiary System,[7] thereby recognizing the right of partners in same-sex unions to visits in prisons,[8] in 2012, the Ombudsman's Office found that the authorities were reluctant to process requests because they claimed that would entail regulations, new psychological tests and additional social work.[9] As a result of a suit brought by the Ombudsman's Office, the Constitutional Chamber declared unconstitutional the application of security measures on grounds of homosexuality or involvement in prostitution, references to which could still be found in the Criminal Code, articles 98, paragraph 6, and 102, subparagraph (e).[10]

3. The Ombudsman's Office points out that the national torture prevention mechanism has come under its authority (recommendation 89.20[11]). The activities of this mechanism, however, are limited to inspecting penitentiary institutions and police cells and do not extend to the other places of deprivation of liberty where the physical integrity and dignity of persons might be jeopardized, as specified in article 4 of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.[12]

4. In April 2013, overcrowding in the prison system, stood at 33 per cent, as a result of a misguided criminal policy (recommendation 89.21[13]). Amendments have been made to procedural laws and the Criminal Code. Courts have been set up to hear cases of flagrant but relatively minor violations of the law, extra grounds for pretrial detention have been added and penalties have been increased for property offences and bodily harm, thereby circumventing the procedural benefit of a conditional sentence and guaranteeing deprivation of liberty.[14] Health services have been affected by the growth of the inmate population (recommendation 89.31[15]) and have been the subject of complaints about delays in medical attention and the lack of vehicles and personnel for transferring inmates to external medical appointments. Another relevant factor in this context is the State party's claim in its report that some progress has been made in respect of agreements on medical care. The agreement between the Ministry of Justice and Peace and the Costa Rican Social Security Fund was never concluded because of the Fund's resistance to taking on the provision of services inside prisons, a situation that has kept the Office of the Comptroller-General of the Republic from approving the agreement.[16]

5. In 2009, pursuant to the Act on the protection of victims, witnesses and other parties involved in criminal proceedings and the inclusion of article 239 bis in the Code of Criminal Procedure, further grounds for pretrial detention were added as a precautionary measure in criminal proceedings (recommendation 89.54[17]). This amendment has led to frequent recourse to deprivation of liberty without trial. The fact that the State party simply forwarded the recommendation to the judiciary is unacceptable.[18]

6. The Government has set forth in the law a national response and prevention system on violence against women and violence within the family (recommendation 91.6) — a significant advance — but achieving targets and ensuring coordination remain problematic.[19] Problems persist with the application by the courts of the Act criminalizing violence against women (recommendation 89.23[20]).[21] The National Institute for Women is the authority responsible for providing legal assistance to victims of domestic violence, but such services are mainly available in the metropolitan area (recommendation 89.28[22]).[23]

7. In 2013, the Act on trafficking in persons and the establishment of the national coalition against migrant smuggling and human trafficking entered into force as the legal framework for the drafting and implementation of public policies (recommendation 89.37[24]). The main challenges relate to the implementation of the Act and the adoption of measures for victim care.[25]

8. A road map for ridding Costa Rica of the worst forms of child labour was published in 2010, in accordance with the targets of eliminating the worst forms of child labour by 2015 and eliminating all child labour completely by 2020, set out in the agenda for the hemisphere (recommendations 89.42,[26] 89.43,[27] 89.44,[28] 89.45,[29] 89.46,[30] 89.47,[31] 89.48[32] and 89.49[33]). The road map was included in the National Development Plan 2010–2014 and in operational plans, and the Ombudsman's Office is following up on its implementation.[34]

9. The Labour Code was amended in 2010 to regulate domestic work by adolescents, and the Act prohibiting dangerous and unhealthy work for adolescents was promulgated in 2011.[35]

10. The Ombudsman's Office is a member of the National Commission for Improved Administration of Justice and, as such, has monitored the observance of the Brasilia Regulations regarding Access to Justice for Vulnerable People, which were issued during the XIV Ibero-American Judicial Summit and approved by the Supreme Court in 2008 (recommendation 89.55[36]).[37]

11. The Criminal Code was amended through Act No. 9048 (2012) to regulate computer crime (recommendation 91.9[38]). As a result of society's reaction, the Legislative Assembly adopted Act No. 9135 (2013), amending article 293 to align the criteria for State secrecy with constitutional case law. However, a constitutionality suit is under way, in which has been incorporated a suit brought by the Ombudsman's Office regarding the failure to fully regulate State secrecy and the transparency and accessibility of personal data kept by public entities.[39]

12. Costa Rica has a State religion under the Constitution, which makes it difficult to accord a role in public affairs to religions or churches other than the Catholic Church (recommendation 91.10[40]).[41]

13. The Ombudsman's Office reports that the Electoral Code amendment guaranteeing gender parity in elected office was in effect during the 2010 elections and that Act No. 8901, on quotas for women,[42] has been suspended pending a constitutionality suit (recommendations 89.12,[43] 89.13[44] and 89.14[45]).[46]

14. The Legislative Assembly does not usually consult indigenous peoples when discussing bills that may affect their rights and interests (recommendation 91.11[47]). Nor is there a mechanism for the participation of indigenous peoples in decision-making regarding their well-being and development.[48]

15. Granting benefits under the non-contributory scheme was included in the National Development Plan 2010–2014 as a strategy to address the situation of people living in extreme poverty (recommendations 89.60[49] and 89.63[50]). One of the main complaints is slow processing.[51] The situation of the non-contributory scheme reflects the half-measures taken to reduce poverty undertaken by the various governments, most of which have been

welfare policies targeting specific population groups without a concomitant shoring up of overall social policies that would enable them to break the cycle of poverty.[52]

16. Regarding recommendation 89.66,[53] the Ombudsman's Office reports that, pursuant to the Migration and Aliens Act, migrants have to contribute to the Costa Rican Social Security Fund as a precondition to the processing of their migration application. Given this obligation, the Fund requires that their migration status should be regularized. The contradiction between these obligations has given rise to coordination problems between the Migration and Aliens Office and the Fund.[54]

17. Regarding the access to housing of indigenous persons (recommendations 89.67[55] and 89.68[56]), the authorities have set up a commission to regulate the allocation of housing in indigenous territories.[57]

18. The Fund does not have standard procedures to deal with abortion (recommendation 91.12[58]), reflecting a reluctance to recognize sexual and reproductive rights.[59]

19. The Ombudsman's Office identifies the inclusion of sex education in basic instruction[60] and the publication of the plan on violence against minors as significant advances.[61]

20. Costa Rica has scholarships for primary and secondary education to ensure that children stay in the school system; however, shortcomings hamper the actual access of children to education (recommendations 89.69,[62] 89.70,[63] 89.71[64] and 89.72[65]).[66]

21. The Ombudsman's Office took part in drafting regulations based on the Migration and Aliens Act by providing comments on proposals (recommendations 89.78[67] and 89.79[68]).[69]

22. It also has observer status with the inter-agency commission on follow-up and implementation of international human rights obligations (recommendation 89.86[70]).[71]

II. Information provided by other stakeholders

A. Background and framework

1. Scope of international obligations[72]

23. The Coalición de Organizaciones Afrodescendientes (Joint submission No. 5) expresses concern at the fact that Costa Rica has not completed procedures to ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, despite having signed it in 2011.[73]

24. The NGO coalition (CR-NGOs) states that in order to harmonize national laws with international standards, Costa Rica has to ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families. The Office of the Counsel-General of the Republic has stated that it has no objections on legal grounds to the ratification of the Convention: there are no conflicts of law or constitutionality.[74]

2. Constitutional and legislative framework

25. MULABI-SRI indicates that Costa Rica has adopted the main United Nations human rights instruments and that the Constitution stipulates that they supersede national laws. The Constitutional Chamber has declared them to have precedence over the Constitution whenever they grant more individual rights and guarantees.[75]

26. The Coalición de Organizaciones y Redes Juveniles (Joint submission No. 6) recommends urging the Legislative Assembly to approve the amendment to article 1 of the Constitution, on recognizing the multi-ethnic and multicultural nature of Costa Rica, a bill that has been before Congress for five years.[76]

3. Institutional and human rights infrastructure and policy measures

27. Human Rights Implementation Centre of the University of Bristol (HRIC-UoB) raised the following issues for consideration of the UPR: lack of proper legislative basis for the designation of the *Defensoría de los Habitantes* as the National Preventive Mechanism (NPM) under the provisions of OP-CAT; failure to provide the NPM with sufficient funding and financial autonomy.[77]

28. HRIC-UoB further indicated that the act establishing the NPM does not fully reflect the stipulation of OP-CAT in respect of the notion of "places of deprivation of liberty". The mandate is limited to only those institutions that are under the authority of the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Public Security, Interior and the Police.[78]

29. HRIC-UoB indicated that the Presidential Decree[79] designating the *Defensoría* as a NPM was published in 2007. It noted however that the designation is only a temporary measure, until legislation is passed. Despite the issue being raised during the first UPR review, no such legislation has been passed.[80] In 2008, the *Defensoría* issued a recommendation to the same effect and in 2011, prepared and tabled before the legislature a draft law on the creation of the NPM. In 2012, the draft law was approved by the Human Rights Commission of the legislature and was listed on the parliamentary agenda, but since then, there has been no progress. According to HRIC, the *Defensoría* has repeatedly called for this legal basis to be adopted but to date no progress has been made.[81]

30. HRIC-UoB noted that during the first UPR of Costa Rica, the matter of funding of the NPM was raised (recommendation 89.20[82]) and Costa Rica listed this recommendation among those which have been implemented or are in the process of being implemented. It noted that despite this assertion, in its 2011 and 2012 Annual Reports, the NPM reported lack of resources.[83]

31. JS6 highlights the efforts to prepare a national action plan on racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and all forms of intolerance, with Afrodescendents as the target group, in fulfilment of the commitment made at the Durban Review Conference and reiterated at the 2009 universal periodic review.[84]

32. JS5 recommends setting out diverse and targeted public policies for Afrodescendents, establishing an organized procedure for their consultation[85] and including Afrodescendent-focused programmes and projects in development plans.[86]

33. JS6 indicates that, pursuant to the Young Persons Act (No. 8261), a national youth system was set up to put youths — as social actors — on the Government agenda.[87] It recommends including ethnic, racial, disability and sexual diversity issues in national youth surveys as well as in the design and implementation of public policies and supporting affirmative action.[88]

34. JS4[89] draws attention to the openness of the inter-agency commission on international human rights obligations, which is responsible for Costa Rica's report under the universal periodic review, to the participation of civil society organizations involved in the implementation and fulfilment of human rights.[90]

B. Implementation of international human rights obligations

1. Equality and non-discrimination

35. JS4 reports that, despite progress, discrimination against women continues.[91]

36. JS4 refers to the recommendations on discrimination, especially racial discrimination,[92] and protection of vulnerable children, particularly migrant and indigenous children.[93] It recommends designing awareness-raising campaigns on cultural diversity; continuing efforts to end discrimination and xenophobia, especially against migrant children; and ensuring that marginal urban areas where migrants live are safe.[94]

37. JS5 recommends running public information campaigns to counter structural racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and all other forms of intolerance and to promote inclusiveness, social cohesion and respect for the values of diversity and multiculturalism[95] as well as setting up mechanisms to prosecute perpetrators of racist acts.[96]

38. MULABI-SRI indicates that although the Constitution guarantees the right to equality and non-discrimination, members of the LGBTI community suffer severe discrimination.[97] MULABI-SRI recommends designing awareness-raising policies and programmes; giving easier access to justice to people whose rights have been infringed because of their gender identity, gender expression or sexual orientation; and removing discriminatory provisions from the Criminal Code and any other law or regulation.[98]

39. Regarding sexual diversity, CR-NGOs reports that certain populations are still victims of discriminatory treatment. It recommends criminalizing discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity, recognizing the legal rights of same-sex couples and allocating funds for public policies to combat discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity.[99]

40. MULABI-SRI reports that intersex individuals, transsexuals, transvestites and transgendered persons are the segment of the sexually diverse population whose rights are most often violated.[100] It recommends amending the Civil Code to allow name and gender changes on identity documents, raising awareness and designing policies to benefit intersex individuals.[101]

41. CR-NGOs reports that people living with HIV continue to be subjected to stigmatization and discrimination. Although it is prohibited under the law, their dismissal from work continues to occur. The right to confidentiality continues to be violated, exposing HIV-positive people to discrimination and rejection.[102]

2. Right to life, liberty and security of the person

42. CR-NGOs reports that persons deprived of their liberty continue to suffer human rights violations, such as prison overcrowding, non-separation of adults and children and health-care deficiencies.[103]

43. It further reports that, despite the criminalization of violence against women, threats to women's safety persist. It recommends spearheading public policies, procedures and guidelines with a focus on the comprehensive protection from violence of women under 18 and defining investigation procedures to cope with structural and systematic violence against women.[104]

44. JS4 acknowledges that efforts have been made to combat ill-treatment of and violence against children as part of the follow-up to the recommendations of the first universal periodic review.[105] It indicates, however, that violence in the home, at school and at the hands of teachers, doctors and the police continues to take place. The National Child

Welfare Agency has proven to be rather ineffective because of a surfeit of cases and bureaucracy.[106]

45. CR-NGOs points to a lack of momentum on protection of children and adolescents, primarily due to scarce resources and weak general policies to tackle commercial sexual exploitation, child labour and child domestic labour. It recommends cataloguing the various forms of child labour with a view to adopting appropriate public policies and implementing the National Child Protection System in an effective and coordinated manner.[107]

46. JS4 welcomes the Government's efforts to implement the recommendations on ways to eradicate trafficking in persons, sexual exploitation and child labour.[108] It notes that, despite an extensive legal framework, many problems in applying the law and holding perpetrators to account persist. The authorities' efforts to dismantle organized crime groups remain insufficient.[109]

47. CR-NGOs reports that Costa Rica has made great strides, but that it needs to do more to assist trafficking victims, record cases of trafficking and promote awareness about discrimination. Trafficking in persons is an offence under the Criminal Code and there is a National Coalition against Trafficking in Persons, but implementation of the law remains a challenge. CR-NGOs recommends strengthening inter-agency and intersectoral coordination, setting up specialized shelters for male trafficking victims, improving statistical information on assistance to victims, providing training for justice officials and designing awareness-raising strategies, especially for vulnerable populations.[110]

48. CR-NGOs indicates that, although children are exposed to various forms of abuse online, such as morphing, grooming, sexual solicitation, harassment and cyberbullying, the Government has not criminalized any of these behaviours, thereby limiting its ability to provide protection. CR-NGOs recommends adopting the Special Act on protecting the rights of adolescents in the context of violence and offences involving information and communications technologies and amending the Criminal Code.[111]

3. Administration of justice

49. CR-NGOs identifies inadequate management, the indiscriminate use of pretrial detention, the entry into force of new repressive laws and the aggressive prosecution of flagrant but relatively minor violations of the law as key factors in prison overcrowding.[112] It recommends implementing comprehensive security policies in which prison is seen as a last resort and improving prison infrastructure to ensure that the rights of persons deprived of their liberty are upheld.[113]

50. CR-NGOs states that the juvenile justice system should be based on modern human rights standards of due process. The Government should encourage the use of alternatives to deprivation of liberty and shore up social and educational programmes.[114]

4. Right to work and to just and favourable conditions of work

51. Regarding the right to work, JS4 indicates that there are flaws and omissions in the application of the law and that not everyone has equal access to the labour market. It identifies low-income youths and immigrants from neighbouring countries as the vulnerable groups in terms of work conditions.[115]

5. Right to health

52. Regarding the recommendations on the right to health that have been accepted,[116] JS4 indicates that not everyone has the same access to, or quality of, health care and that this right is not fully exercised because services are overstretched.[117]

53. The Centre for Reproductive Rights mentions recommendations 89.63,[118] 89.65,[119] 89.66[120] and 91.12,[121] which were accepted or said to be under implementation during the first universal periodic review. It indicates that Costa Rica prohibits the use of in vitro fertilization[122] and has not guaranteed access for women to legal abortions.[123] Referring to the Government's failure to observe the rulings of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights in the cases of *Artavia Murillo et al.*,[124] *Aurora* and *AN*,[125] the Centre calls on the Council to urge Costa Rica to adopt all necessary measures to comply with the Court's decisions.[126] It recommends that Costa Rica take legal measures to permit infertile couples to seek in vitro fertilization, without discrimination, and that it adopt a treatment protocol regulating access to legal abortions.[127] CR-NGOs makes similar comments and recommendations.[128]

54. CR-NGOs mentions the lack of access to emergency contraceptives, especially for teenage girls and women victims of sexual violence.[129]

55. MULABI-SRI reports that stereotypes about sexual orientation and gender persist, to the detriment of the health of lesbians, particularly their sexual and reproductive health.[130]

56. MULABI-SRI indicates that the HIV/AIDS epidemic in Costa Rica is concentrated among the gay, bisexual and transsexual population.[131]

57. Regarding HIV prevention, CR-NGOs states that rapid diagnosis through medical tests and universal access to condoms are problematic. It also reports that obtaining medical care is difficult for HIV-positive individuals from vulnerable groups, such as persons deprived of their liberty, the poor, sex workers, the LBGTI community, neglected senior citizens, addicts and migrants in an irregular situation.[132]

58. MULABI-SRI recommends developing programmes to provide comprehensive health care to the LGBTI community.[133]

59. It further recommends building up capacity in the health-care system and including in medical curricula new trends in the treatment of intersex individuals.[134]

6. Right to education

60. JS4 comments on the recommendations that have been accepted and efforts being made to continue ensuring effective implementation of the right to education.[135] Obstacles to the full enjoyment of this right include: unequal access due to indirect costs, non-standardized quality of instruction, growing grade repetition and dropout rates and cyberbullying in educational institutions.[136]

61. MULABI-SRI recommends designing policies to eliminate harassment in schools and ensure the right of LGBTI individuals to education in a discrimination-free environment as well as revising the decision of the Constitutional Court granting all children the right to comprehensive sex education.[137]

62. CR-NGOs recommends adopting public policies on ensuring quality education for children and adolescents.[138]

7. Persons with disabilities

63. The Coalición de Organizaciones de Personas con Discapacidad (COPcD) indicates that the legislation has not been harmonized, as required by the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Denying persons with disabilities the right to exercise their legal capacity remains a common practice.[139]

64. Costa Rica has not complied with article 33 of the Convention: there is no institution responsible for driving and coordinating the implementation of the treaty among agencies.[140]

65. In addition, the Government has yet to appoint an institutional mechanism to "promote, protect and monitor" the implementation of the Convention, a role that should be taken on by an independent public entity, such as the Ombudsman's Office.[141] According to COPcD, when the Ombudsman's Office asked the Ministry of Foreign Affairs who was going to be carrying out such independent monitoring, the Ministry mentioned the inter-agency commission on international human rights obligations, established pursuant to Executive Decree No. 36776-RE in 2011. The Ministry also stated that "The National Council for Rehabilitation and Special Education, as the governing body in the area of disabilities, has expressed its opinion that, with the establishment of the inter-agency commission and the National Council's involvement therein, the obligation under article 33 of the Convention is fulfilled, given that the commission oversees the Convention." COPcD indicates that this misinterpretation of the treaty should be corrected by assigning the responsibility to the Ombudsman's Office.[142]

66. COPcD reports that persons with disabilities are discriminated against on the grounds of disability, income and gender. The Government has not paid enough attention to the rights of indigenous persons with disabilities.[143]

67. COPcD further reports that progress in terms of freedom of movement, access to information and communication is slow.[144]

68. COPcD states that since the ratification of the Convention, there has been no notable progress in the area of inclusive and good quality education for persons with disabilities. The Ministry of Education has not initiated a national inclusive education policy. Changes to organizational structures, plans and programmes have been minor. Education is usually segregated and does not meet quality standards. A large percentage of adults with disabilities have not had access to education.[145]

69. Lastly, COPcD states that the Government has not proposed an effective policy for including persons with disabilities in the labour market and that there is limited technical training. Figures on labour market inclusion are virtually symbolic.[146]

8. Minorities and indigenous peoples

70. JS4 recognizes the efforts made to improve conditions in indigenous communities, in fulfilment of the accepted recommendations.[147] However, it points out that results are insufficient and that indigenous persons are marginalized. Their languages are usually not taken into account, including in schools. Furthermore, the issue of indigenous landownership has not been resolved.[148]

71. JS4 recommends guaranteeing the rights of indigenous peoples, especially their right to decent housing.[149]

72. JS5 indicates that, in the southern Caribbean region, the right of Afrodescendents to land associated with their cultural identity is being infringed. In 2011, the Government promulgated the Act recognizing the rights of the inhabitants of the southern Caribbean, but it, does not solve the landownership issue.[150]

73. JS5 reports that Costa Rica does not have an organized legal process for the prior consultation of populations, ethnic groups and Afrodescendents, as defined in International Labour Organization Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169) and the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities.[151] JS5 expresses the concern that government officials travel to Afrodescendent communities to run workshops on culture and land tenure, later claiming

that they have conducted prior consultations, in breach of international human rights instruments.[152]

74. CR-NGOs recommends adopting legislation to recognize and regulate the right of indigenous populations to prior consultation and adopting the bill on the autonomous development of indigenous peoples; setting up effective mechanisms for the reorganization and recovery of indigenous lands; and protecting the life and personal integrity of indigenous rights defenders.[153]

9. Migrants, refugees and asylum seekers

75. CR-NGOs underlines the special significance of migration in the context of Costa Rica and recommends harmonizing requirements, especially regarding documentation and costs, raising the awareness of officials involved in migration proceedings and ensuring that migrants have access to justice, education, health care and safety, with no discrimination whatsoever.[154]

76. JS4 recommends adopting programmes to eradicate poverty, with a particular focus on the children of migrants and refugees.[155]

10. Right to development and environmental issues

77. JS4 notes the irresponsible use of marine resources in Puntarenas Province, despite the applicable laws in that regard. It recommends that the Government conduct information campaigns on the importance of environmental protection and, in particular, of the protection of marine species.[156]

Notes

[1] The stakeholders listed below have contributed information for this summary; the full texts of all original submissions are available at: www.ohchr.org.

Civil society

Individual submissions

CRR (CDR)	Center for Reproductive Rights (Centro de Derechos Reproductivos), New York, United States of America;
HRIC	Human Rights Implementation Centre, University of Bristol, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;

Joint submissions

JS1	**Joint submission No. 1** by MULABI & SRI, Buenos Aires, Argentina;
JS2 (CR-NGOs)	**Joint submission No. 2** by a coalition of NGOs for UPR-Costa Rica: Asociación Binacional Asociación Casa Hogar San José, Asociación Centro Nacional de Juventudes (CNJ)Asociación de Consultores y Asesores Internacionales (ACAI)Asociación de Trabajadoras Domésticas (ASTRADOMES)Asociación Demográfica Costarricense (ADC)Asociación MANU - Movimiento de Apoyo hacia una Nueva Universalidad, Asociación migrantes nicaragüenses en Costa Rica (AMN-CR)Asociación Nacional de Empleados Públicos y Privados (ANEP)Asociación pro derechos humanos y justicia social (ADHJUS)Asociación Proyecto La SalaA sociación Servicio Solidario y Misionero Unidos en la Esperanza Centro de Investigación y Promoción para América Central de Derechos Humanos (CIPAC)Centro Feminista de Información y Acción (CEFEMINA)Centro por la Justicia y el Derecho Internacional (CEJIL)Centro Internacional para los Derechos Humanos de los Migrantes (CIDEHUM)Centro Sindical de Atención al Trabajador/a Migrante (CSM-CTRN)Coalición de Organizaciones y Grupos de la Diversidad Sexual de Costa Rica (CONODIS)Coordinadora de

Sindicatos Bananeros de Costa Rica (COSIBACR)Defensa de Niñas y Niños Internacional (DNI Costa Rica)Enlaces Nicaragüenses de Costa Rica (ENCR)Fundación PaniamorFutbol Por la VidaHermanas Misioneras ScalabrinianasHumanitas de Costa RicaIglesia Luterana Costarricense (ILCO)Liga Internacional de Mujeres Pro Paz y Libertad (LIMPAL)MulabiRed de Jóvenes sin FronterasRed de ONG que trabajan en VIH - Costa RicaRed Nacional de Defensa y Promoción de los Derechos Sexuales y Reproductivos (Red DESER)Refugee Education Trust - The RET – Costa Rica, San Jose, Costa Rica;

JS3-COPcD **Joint submission No. 3** by la Coalición de Organizaciones de Personas con Discapacidad (COPcD): Foro por los Derechos de las Personas con Discapacidad; Instituto Interamericano sobre Discapacidad y Desarrollo Inclusivo (IIDI); Asociación Pro Centro Nacional de Rehabilitación (APROCENARE); Federacion Pro Personas con Discapacidad (FEREPRODIS); Asociación Movimiento de Vida Independiente (MVI); Asociación de Personas con Discapacidad de Curridabat; Asociación de Personas con Discapacidad de Puriscal; Asociación para la Inclusión Laboral de Perez Zeledón; Asociación para el Desarrollo de las Personas con Discapacidad de Pavas; Asociacion Amigos del Grupo de Percusión Inclusión; Asociación Costarricense de Personas Autistas; Asociación de Personas con Discapacidad de Los Santos; Fundación Charcot de Costa Rica; Fundación Andrea Jimenez; Fundación el Futuro es para todos; Movimiento Participación Ciudadana de Alajuela; Asociación de Personas con Discapacidad de Montes de Oca; Asociación de Personas con Discapacidad de Santa Marta, Buenos Aires, Puntarenas; Asociación de Personas con Discapacidad de Buenos Aires, Puntarenas; Concejo Indígena de Lagarto y Puerto Nuevo; Concejo Indígena de Curré; Concejo Indigena de Salitre; Concejo Indígena de Cabagra; Concejo Indígena de Ujarrás; Asociación Indigena Dubon Térraba; Asociación Indigena de Personas con Discapacidad de Boruca Fundación El Portavoz; Cooperativa de Personas con Discapacidad Visual (COOPEAPAD); Asociacion para la Prevención de la Salud Mental (APROSAM); De Asociacion Cantonal de Palmares Pro-ayuda a la Persona con Discapacidad (APRADIS); Asociacion Talita Cumi, Costa Rica;

JS4 **Joint submission No. 4** by Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice (IIMA); International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education, Development (VIDES International) and the Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, Switzerland;

JS5 **Joint submission No.5** by Coalición de organizaciones Afrodescendientes para el EPU Costa Rica: Mesa Nacional Afrocostarricense (MNA); Universal Negro Improvement Association (UNIA); Asociación Proyecto Caribe (APC), Costa Rica;

JS6 **Joint submission No.6** by Coalición de Organizaciones y Redes Juveniles /Coalition of Youth NGOs for UPR-Costa Rica: Asociación Proyecto Caribe, Asociación de Desarrollo y Emprendimiento Tecnológico Inclusivo para Jóvenes con Discapacidad, Centro Nacional de Juventudes y PSG, San José, Costa Rica.

National human rights institution

DHR Defensoría de los Habitantes,* San José, Costa Rica.

Regional intergovernmental organizations

IACHR Inter-American Commission on Human Rights - Organization of American States, United States of America.

[2] A /HRC/13/15, para. 91.1. 1. *Design and implement its action plan for strengthening legal and institutional frameworks to combat racism and racial discrimination, ensuring that all legal provisions are fully applied, that racism and racial discrimination are actively monitored and that*

training is carried out for all relevant authorities to provide equal access to legal redress for all victims of crime (United Kingdom).

[3] Defensoria de los Habitantes, para.6.

[4] A /HRC/13/15, para. 89.16. *Pursue its efforts in favour of gays, lesbians and transsexuals (France).*

[5] Defensoria de los Habitantes, para.2.

[6] Defensoria de los Habitantes, para.3. See also submission from Coalición de ONGs (CR-NGOs – Joint Submission 2), para.7.

[7] Decreto33876-J –Reglamento Tecnico del Sistema Penitenciario.

[8] Defensoria de los Habitantes, para.4.

[9] Defensoria de los Habitantes, para.4.

[10] Defensoria de los Habitantes, para.5.

[11] A/HRC/13/15, para. 89.*20. Ensure sufficient resources for effective functioning of its national preventive mechanism provided for in the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (OP-CAT) and further strengthen mechanisms for independent investigation of alleged cases of torture and for effective access of victims to remedies with special attention to protection of women, children and persons of minority sexual orientation or gender identity (Czech Republic).**

[12] Defensoria de los Habitantes, para 10.

[13] A/HRC/13/15, para. 89.*21. Enhance the policy to prevent, combat and eradicate torture, improve the situation in the prison system and establish alternative sanctions (Brazil).*

[14] Defensoria de los Habitantes, para 11.

[15] A/HRC/13/15, para. 89. 31. *Increase efforts to improve prison conditions, including health care (Holy See).*

[16] Defensoria de los Habitantes, para 15.

[17] A/HRC/13/15, para. 89.54. *Expeditiously take appropriate steps towards restricting the use of pretrial detention and its duration and opt for alternative methods whenever possible (Slovakia).*

[18] Defensoria de los Habitantes, para 19.

[19] Defensoria de los Habitantes, para 12.

[20] A/HRC/13/15, para. 89. 23. *Duly implement and review when necessary the law criminalizing violence against women, adopted in April 2007, to ensure due investigations and the punishment of all perpetrators and to prevent further occurrence of these violations as well as to establish a functioning rehabilitation scheme for the victims (Slovakia).**

[21] Defensoria de los Habitantes, para 13. See also IACHR Report on Justice for Women Victims of Sexual Violence: Education and Health (2011), OEA/Ser.L/V/II. Doc. 65, 28 December 2011 (available at http://www.oas.org/en/iachr/women/docs/pdf/WOMEN%20MESOAMERICA%20eng.pdf).

[22] A/HRC/13/15, para. 89. 28. *Increase efforts to provide effective assistance to women and girls who are victims of violence, in particular through the provision of safe places and psychological support (Austria).*

[23] Defensoria de los Habitantes, para 14.

[24] A/HRC/13/15, para. 89. 37. *Reinforce concrete measures aimed at combating trafficking in women and young girls, and assistance to victims (Belgium).**

[25] Defensoria de los Habitantes, para 16.

[26] A/HRC/13/15, para. 89. 42. *Continue taking efficient measures to eliminate prohibited child labour and prostitution, and to combat the phenomenon of children living in the street, and monitor appropriately the efficiency of measures taken (Slovenia).*

[27] A/HRC/13/15, para. 89. 43. *Undertake further efforts to eliminate child labour and to protect juvenile workers (Belarus).*

[28] A/HRC/13/15, para. 89. 44. *Strengthen efforts to eliminate child labour (Chile).*

[29] A/HRC/13/15, para. 89. 45. *Adopt and implement appropriate efficient policies and programmes and strengthen its efforts in raising public awareness to eliminate child labour (Slovakia).**

[30] A/HRC/13/15, para. 89. 46. *Strengthen its policies on protection of minors against child labour and sexual exploitation (Germany).*

[31] A/HRC/13/15, para. 89. 47. *Reinforce the fight against exploitation of minors, particularly sexual exploitation, through the effective implementation of national and international legal provisions and through maximal use of the National Plan to Combat Commercial Sexual Exploitation (Switzerland).*

[32] A/HRC/13/15, para. 89. 48. *Increase its capacity to prevent child prostitution, protect victims, continue to raise awareness and prosecute perpetrators (Netherlands).*

[33] A/HRC/13/15, para. 89. 49. *Take practical steps to address the problems of street children and take effective measures to eliminate prohibited child labour (Azerbaijan).* *

[34] Defensoria de los Habitantes, para 17.

[35] Defensoria de los Habitantes, para 18.

[36] A/HRC/13/15, para. 89.55. *Continue efforts to fight against impunity and human rights violations, with special attention to the rights of indigenous populations, those of African descent, women and HIV/AIDS carriers, as well as to combat all forms of discrimination (Brazil).*

[37] Defensoria de los Habitantes, para 20.

[38] A/HRC/13/15, para.91. 9. *Review the legislation on the press offences of libel and defamation with a view to ensuring full protection and realization of the freedom of expression (Czech Republic).*

[39] Defensoria de los Habitantes, para 21.

[40] A/HRC/13/15, para.91.10. *Ensure balanced treatment of all religions and grant the same status to all religious marriages (Congo).*

[41] Defensoria de los Habitantes, para 22.

[42] Ley 8901 sobre el Porcentaje mínimo de mujeres que deben integrar las directivas de asociaciones, sindicatos y asociaciones solidaristas, aprobada por la Asamblea Legislativa el 3 de noviembre de 2010.

[43] A/HRC/13/15, para. 89.12. *Intensify its efforts to counter discrimination against women based on whatever grounds (Slovakia).*

[44] A/HRC/13/15, para. 89.13. *Continue to implement all measures aimed at promoting gender equality, notably by combating all discrimination against women and stereotypes (Algeria).*

[45] A/HRC/13/15, para. 89. 14. *Intensify its efforts to realize gender equality, including by implementing the recommendation made by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women in 2003 aimed at changing social stereotypes that encourage discrimination against women and impede their egalitari n performance in society (Norway).*

[46] Defensoria de los Habitantes, para 1. See also submission from the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights - IACHR, The Road to substantive Democracy: Women´s Political Participation in the Americas, OEA/Ser.L/V/II., Doc. 79, 18 April 2011, paras. 55 and 57 (Available at: http://www.oas.org/en/iachr/women/docs/pdf/POLITICAL.part.pdf).

[47] A/HRC/13/15, para.91.11. *Include in its debates, within the framework of the legislative review process, indigenous participation as a democratizing principle for civic participation at all levels, municipal, legislative and executive (Panama).*

[48] Defensoria de los Habitantes, para 23.

[49] A/HRC/13/15, para. 89. 60. *Pursue its efforts to ensure the right to an adequate standard of living for vulnerable groups (Algeria).*

[50] A/HRC/13/15, para. 89. 63. *Continue its efforts to further improve access to education, housing, social security, health and employment, especially for people living in poverty or extreme poverty, and to increase even more the resources and social benefits aimed at reducing poverty and extreme poverty in the country (Bulgaria).*

[51] Defensoria de los Habitantes, para 24.

[52] Defensoria de los Habitantes, para 25.

[53] A/HRC/13/15, para. 89. 66. *Continue advancing in its efforts to achieve universal coverage of its Maternity, Disease and Health Care Programme (Colombia).*

[54] Defensoria de los Habitantes, para 26.

[55] A/HRC/13/15, para. 89. 67. *Take further measures to address the disparity in wages between men and women and continue to allocate sufficient funds to increase the availability of social housing for indigenous people, those of African descent and migrants, in line with the concerns raised by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the United Nations country team (Ghana).*

[56] A/HRC/13/15, para.89.68. *Take measures to ensure equitable access of indigenous children, migrant children and those living in rural areas to education and health services and improve their standard of living (Ghana).* *

[57] Defensoria de los Habitantes, para 27.

[58] A/HRC/13/15, para. 91.12. *Enhance and enshrine in law services aimed at protecting women and provide women with adequate information on how to access such support and medical care, including permitted abortions (United Kingdom).*

[59] Defensoría de los Habitantes, para 28. See also submission from the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights - I/A Court H.R., Caso Artavia Murillo y otros (Fertilización in vitro) v. Costa Rica. Preliminary Objections, Merits, Reparations and Costs. Judgment of November 28, 2012. Series C No. 257 (Available at: http://www.corteidh.or.cr/docs/casos/articulos/seriec_257_ing.doc).

[60] Defensoría de los Habitantes, para 29.

[61] Defensoría de los Habitantes, para 30.

[62] A/HRC/13/15, para. 89. 69. *Pursue its action to ensure the right to education for all towards the realization of the Millennium Development Goals and to extend this fundamental right to children of illegal migrants (Algeria).**

[63] A/HRC/13/15, para. 89.70. *Increase efforts at providing free and affordable education, including secondary education, to all segments of the population (Austria).**

[64] A/HRC/13/15, para. 89. 71. *Continue to take effective measures to increase enrolment in primary and secondary schools, to reduce the high dropout rate of students, particularly in rural areas, and to address the lack of school infrastructure in those areas (Turkey).**

[65] A/HRC/13/15, para. 89. 72. *Continue to take effective measures to increase enrolment in primary and secondary schools, reduce the high rate of students dropping out or repeating years, in particular in rural areas, and find ways to address the lack of school infrastructure in those areas (Portugal).**

[66] Defensoría de los Habitantes, para 29.

[67] A/HRC/13/15, para. 89. 78. *Identify the Government department that will be responsible for implementing the new migration and aliens act (Law 8764) and determining rules for its implementation (Netherlands).**

[68] A/HRC/13/15, para. 89. 79. *Strengthen policies to guarantee the rights of migrants and refugees, under the principle of non-discrimination and non-refoulement (Brazil).*

[69] Defensoría de los Habitantes, para 30.

[70] A/HRC/13/15, para. 89. 86. *Establish an effective and inclusive process to follow-up to the recommendations emerging from the universal periodic review (Norway).*

[71] Defensoría de los Habitantes, para 31.

[72] The following abbreviations have been used for this document/en este documento se han usado las siglas inglesas siguientes:

ICERD	International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination/ Convención Internacional sobre la Eliminación de todas las Formas de Discriminación Racial;
ICESCR	International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights/ Pacto Internacional de Derechos Económicos, Sociales y Culturales;
OP-ICESCR	Optional Protocol to ICESCR/ Protocolo Facultativo del Pacto Internacional de Derechos Económicos Sociales y Culturales;
ICCPR	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights/ Pacto Internacional de Derechos Civiles y Políticos;
ICCPR-OP 1	Optional Protocol to ICCPR/ Protocolo Facultativo del ICCPR;
ICCPR-OP 2	Second Optional Protocol to ICCPR, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty/ Segundo Protocolo Facultativo del ICCPR, destinado a abolir la pena de muerte;
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women/ Convención sobre la eliminación de todas las formas de discriminación contra la mujer;
OP-CEDAW	Optional Protocol to CEDAW/ Protocolo Facultativo de la CEDAW;
CAT	Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment/ Convención contra la Tortura y Otros Tratos o Penas Crueles, Inhumanos o Degradantes;
OP-CAT	Optional Protocol to CAT/ Protocolo Facultativo de la CAT;
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child/ Convención sobre los Derechos del Niño;

OP-CRC-AC	Optional Protocol to CRC on the involvement of children in armed conflict/ Protocolo facultativo de la CRC relativo a la participación de niños en los conflictos armados;
OP-CRC-SC	Optional Protocol to CRC on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography/Protocolo facultativo de la CRC relativo a la venta de niños, la prostitución infantil y la utilización de niños en la pornografía;
OP-CRC-IC	Optional Protocol to CRC on a communications procedure/Protocolo opcional de la CRC sobre un procedimiento de comunicaciones;
ICRMW	International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families/ Convención Internacional sobre la protección de los derechos de todos los trabajadores migratorios y de sus familiares;
CRPD	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities/ Convención sobre los derechos de las personas con discapacidad;
OP-CRPD	Optional Protocol to CRPD/Protocolo facultativo de la CRPD;
CPED	International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance/Convención Internacional para la protección de todas las personas contra las desapariciones forzadas.

[73] Coalición de Organizaciones Afrodescendientes (Joint Submission 5), para.3.
[74] Coalición de ONGs (CR-NGOs – Joint Submission 2), paras. 48-49.
[75] Mulabi-SRI (Joint Submission 1), para. 2.
[76] Coalición de Organizaciones y Redes Juveniles (Joint Submission 6), para.43. See also recommendation from the Coalición de Organizaciones Afrodescendientes (Joint Submission 5), para 26.
[77] Human Rights Implementation Centre of the University of Bristol, pages 4-5.
[78] Human Rights Implementation Centre of the University of Bristol, paras.14-17.
[79] Executive Decree No. 33568-RE-MSP-G-J of 19 February 2007.
[80] Human Rights Implementation Centre of the University of Bristol, para.3.
[81] Human Rights Implementation Centre of the University of Bristol, paras.6-7.
[82] A/HRC/13/15, para. 89. 20. *Ensure sufficient resources for effective functioning of its national preventive mechanism provided for in the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (OP-CAT) and further strengthen mechanisms for independent investigation of alleged cases of torture and for effective access of victims to remedies with special attention to protection of women, children and persons of minority sexual orientation or gender identity (Czech Republic).*"
[83] Human Rights Implementation Centre of the University of Bristol, paras.10-13.
[84] Coalición de Organizaciones Afrodescendientes (Joint Submission 5), para.2.
[85] Coalición de Organizaciones Afrodescendientes (Joint Submission 5), paras.24 and 25.
[86] Coalición de Organizaciones Afrodescendientes (Joint Submission 5), para.32.
[87] Coalición de Organizaciones y Redes Juveniles (Joint Submission 6), pages 1-5.
[88] Coalición de Organizaciones y Redes Juveniles (Joint Submission 6), paras. 38-43.
[89] Joint submission 4 by IMMA-VIDES International-Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd.
[90] Joint submission 4 by IMMA-VIDES International-Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, para.7.
[91] Joint submission 4 by IMMA-VIDES International-Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, paras.41-45.
[92] A/HRC/13/15, para. 89.5. *Consider including in its criminal legislation the delinquent conducts provided for in relevant paragraphs of article 4 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD, in line with the recommendations of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (Peru);* A/HRC/13/15, para. 89.6. *Amend its criminal legislation so as to bring it into line with ICERD in order to overcome the fact that racial discrimination is viewed as a minor infraction punishable by a fine, as stated by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Portugal).* A/HRC/13/15, para.89.17. *Promote educative programmes to reduce discrimination and prejudices towards persons with disabilities, and ensure that all members of society, including those*

with disabilities, are able to enjoy equal participation in the presidential vote in 2010 (United Kingdom). * A/HRC/13/15, para.91.1. 1. *Design and implement its action plan for strengthening legal and institutional frameworks to combat racism and racial discrimination, ensuring that all legal provisions are fully applied, that racism and racial discrimination are actively monitored and that training is carried out for all relevant authorities to provide equal access to legal redress for all victims of crime (United Kingdom).*

93 A/HRC/13/15, para.89.10. *Follow through and expand on already established programmes to protect children (United States);* A/HRC/13/15, para.89.60. *Pursue its efforts to ensure the right to an adequate standard of living for vulnerable groups (Algeria);* A/HRC/13/15, para.89.64. *Place greater emphasis on providing services for vulnerable, poor and homeless children and strengthen legislation against child pornography (United Kingdom);* A/HRC/13/15, para.89. 83. *Consider implementing, as appropriate, the recommendations of UNHCR, human rights treaty bodies and special procedures with respect to asylum-seekers, immigrants and irregular immigrants, especially children (Jordan).*

94 Joint submission 4 by IMMA-VIDES International-Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, para.11.

95 Coalición de Organizaciones Afrodescendientes (Joint Submission 5), para.29.

96 Coalición de Organizaciones Afrodescendientes (Joint Submission 5), para.28.

97 Mulabi-SRI (Joint Submission 1), para. 4.

98 Mulabi-SRI (Joint Submission 1), paras. 7-9.

99 Coalición de ONGs (CR-NGOs – Joint Submission 2), paras.1-7.

100 Mulabi-SRI (Joint Submission 1), paras. 21-31.

101 Mulabi-SRI (Joint Submission 1), paras. 32-38. See also submission from Coalición de ONGs (CR-NGOs – Joint Submission 2), para.7.

102 Coalición de ONGs (CR-NGOs – Joint Submission 2), paras.8-13.

103 Coalición de ONGs (CR-NGOs – Joint Submission 2), para.1.

104 Coalición de ONGs (CR-NGOs – Joint Submission 2), paras.14-17. See also IACHR Report on Justice for Women Victims of Sexual Violence: Education and Health (2011), OEA/Ser.L/V/II. Doc. 65, 28 December 2011 (available at http://www.oas.org/en/iachr/women/docs/pdf/WOMEN%20MESOAMERICA%20eng.pdf).

105 A/HRC/13/15, para.89. 19. *Ensure effective implementation of the provisions punishing acts of torture (France);* A/HRC/13/15, para.89.20. *Ensure sufficient resources for effective functioning of its national preventive mechanism provided for in the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (OP-CAT) and further strengthen mechanisms for independent investigation of alleged cases of torture and for effective access of victims to remedies with special attention to protection of women, children and persons of minority sexual orientation or gender identity (Czech Republic);* * A/HRC/13/15, para.89.21. *Enhance the policy to prevent, combat and eradicate torture, improve the situation in the prison system and establish alternative sanctions (Brazil);* A/HRC/13/15, para.89.22. *Step up implementation of legal and institutional measures aimed at addressing the reported increase of domestic violence against women and children (Malaysia);* *A/HRC/13/15, para.89. 24. *Continue its efforts to eliminate violence against women and children (Jordan);* A/HRC/13/15, para.89. 27. *Take further measures to ensure the full protection of children from all forms of violence (Sweden);* * A/HRC/13/15, para.89. 28. *Increase efforts to provide effective assistance to women and girls who are victims of violence, in particular through the provision of safe places and psychological support (Austria).*

106 Joint submission 4 by IMMA-VIDES International-Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, paras.32-34.

107 Coalición de ONGs (CR-NGOs – Joint Submission 2), paras.23-36.

108 A/HRC/13/15, para.89.32. *Strengthen its efforts to train law enforcement officials to effectively work against trafficking of persons (Sweden);* A/HRC/13/15, para.89.33. *Continue implementing as effectively as possible measures aimed at combating trafficking and smuggling of migrants, including children, with a view to sexual exploitation, particularly concerning assistance to the victims (Argentina);* A/HRC/13/15, para.89.34. *Continue efforts to provide improved assistance to victims of trafficking (Sweden);* A/HRC/13/15, para.89.35. *Implement and enforce the changes to the Criminal Code which criminalize all forms of trafficking and raise prison sentences for anyone committing the offense of trafficking in persons (United States);* * A/HRC/13/15, para.89.36. *Reinforce measures to combat trafficking of women and children and ensure that the penalties foreseen for these crimes are*

commensurate with the gravity of the crime (Italy); A/HRC/13/15, para.89.37. *Reinforce concrete measures aimed at combating trafficking in women and young girls, and assistance to victims (Belgium);* A/HRC/13/15, para.89.38. *Ensure that persons suspected of trafficking in human beings are duly prosecuted and judged, and facilitate access to justice and compensation for victims (Belgium);* A/HRC/13/15, para.89.39. *Step up efforts to combat trafficking in persons (Belarus);* A/HRC/13/15, para.89.40. *Strengthen criminal legislation with regard to trafficking of children and women (Germany);* A/HRC/13/15, para.89.41. *Further reinforce measures to combat trafficking of women and children, as well as penalties commensurate with the seriousness of such acts (Egypt);* A/HRC/13/15, para.89.42. *Continue taking efficient measures to eliminate prohibited child labour and prostitution, and to combat the phenomenon of children living in the street, and monitor appropriately the efficiency of measures taken (Slovenia);* A/HRC/13/15, para.89.43. *Undertake further efforts to eliminate child labour and to protect juvenile workers (Belarus);* A/HRC/13/15, para.89.44. *Strengthen efforts to eliminate child labour (Chile);* A/HRC/13/15, para.89.45. *Adopt and implement appropriate efficient policies and programmesand strengthen its efforts in raising public awareness to eliminate child labour (Slovakia);* A/HRC/13/15, para.89. 47. *Reinforce the fight against exploitation of minors, particularly sexual exploitation, through the effective implementation of national and international legal provisions and through maximal use of the National Plan to Combat Commercial Sexual Exploitation (Switzerland);* A/HRC/13/15, para.89. 49. *Take practical steps to address the problems of street children and take effective measures to eliminate prohibited child labour (Azerbaijan).*

109 Joint submission 4 by IMMA-VIDES International-Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, paras.27-31.

110 Coalición de ONGs (CR-NGOs – Joint Submission 2), paras.37-40.

111 Coalición de ONGs (CR-NGOs – Joint Submission 2), paras.36-37.

112 Coalición de ONGs (CR-NGOs – Joint Submission 2), para.50.

113 Coalición de ONGs (CR-NGOs – Joint Submission 2), paras.50-53.

114 Coalición de ONGs (CR-NGOs – Joint Submission 2), paras.50-53.

115 Joint submission 4 by IMMA-VIDES International-Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, paras. 35-40.

116 A/HRC/13/15, para.89.65. *Further focus its national spending on improving health and education services and increasing the availability of social housing (Azerbaijan).*

117 Joint submission 4 by IMMA-VIDES International-Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, paras.20-26.

118 A/HRC/13/15, para.89.63. *Continue its efforts to further improve access to education, housing, social security, health and employment, especially for people living in poverty or extreme poverty, and to increase even more the resources and social benefits aimed at reducing poverty and extreme poverty in the country (Bulgaria).*

119 A/HRC/13/15, para.89.65. *Further focus its national spending on improving health and education services and increasing the availability of social housing (Azerbaijan).*

120 A/HRC/13/15, para.89.66. *Continue advancing in its efforts to achieve universal coverage of its Maternity, Disease and Health Care Programme (Colombia).*

121 A/HRC/13/15, para.91.12. *Enhance and enshrine in law services aimed at protecting women and provide women with adequate information on how to access such support and medical care, including permitted abortions (United Kingdom).*

122 Centro de Derechos Reproductivos, paras. 15-25.

123 Centro de Derechos Reproductivos, paras. 26-34.

124 Centro de Derechos Reproductivos, para.13. See also submission from the Coalición de ONGs (CR-NGOs – Joint Submission 2), para.18 and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights - I/A Court H.R., Caso Artavia Murillo y otros (Fertilización in vitro) v. Costa Rica. Preliminary Objections, Merits, Reparations and Costs. Judgment of November 28, 2012. Series C No. 257 (avaliable at: http://www.corteidh.or.cr/docs/casos/articulos/seriec_257_ing.doc).

125 Centro de Derechos Reproductivos, para.14. See also submission from the Coalición de ONGs (CR-NGOs – Joint Submission 2), para.20.

126 Centro de Derechos Reproductivos, para. 25

127 Centro de Derechos Reproductivos, para. 35.

128 Coalición de ONGs (CR-NGOs – Joint Submission 2), paras.18-22.

[129] Coalición de ONGs (CR-NGOs – Joint Submission 2), para.19. See also submission from the Inter-American Commissioner on Human Rights - IACHR Report on Justice for Women Victims of Sexual Violence: Education and Health (2011), OEA/Ser.L/V/II. Doc. 65, 28 December 2011, para.242. (available at http://www.oas.org/en/iachr/women/docs/pdf/WOMEN%20MESOAMERICA%20eng.pdf).

[130] Mulabi-SRI (Joint Submission 1), para.11.

[131] Mulabi-SRI (Joint Submission 1), para.12.

[132] Coalición de ONGs (CR-NGOs – Joint Submission 2), paras. 8-13.

[133] Mulabi-SRI (Joint Submission 1), para.14.

[134] Mulabi-SRI (Joint Submission 1), paras. 32-38. See also submission from Coalición de ONGs (CR-NGOs – Joint Submission 2), para.7.

[135] A/HRC/13/15, para.89.69. *Pursue its action to ensure the right to education for all towards the realization of the Millennium Development Goals and to extend this fundamental right to children of illegal migrants (Algeria);* A/HRC/13/15, para.89.70. *Increase efforts at providing free and affordable education, including secondary education, to all segments of the population (Austria);* A/HRC/13/15, para.89. 71. *Continue to take effective measures to increase enrolment in primary and secondary schools, to reduce the high dropout rate of students, particularly in rural areas, and to address the lack of school infrastructure in those areas (Turkey);* A/HRC/13/15, para.89.72. *Continue to take effective measures to increase enrolment in primary and secondary schools, reduce the high rate of students dropping out or repeating years, in particular in rural areas, and find ways to address the lack of school infrastructure in those areas (Portugal);* A/HRC/13/15, para.89. 73. *Continue to work at the international level in favour of human rights education (Morocco).*

[136] Joint submission 4 by IMMA-VIDES International-Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, paras. 12-19.

[137] Mulabi-SRI (Joint Submission 1), paras. 19-20.

[138] Coalición de ONGs (CR-NGOs – Joint Submission 2), para.36.

[139] Joint submission 3 by la Coalición de Organizaciones de Personas con Discapacidad, page 3.

[140] Joint submission 3 by la Coalición de Organizaciones de Personas con Discapacidad, pages 2 and 6.

[141] Joint submission 3 by la Coalición de Organizaciones de Personas con Discapacidad, page 6.

[142] Joint submission 3 by la Coalición de Organizaciones de Personas con Discapacidad, page 7.

[143] Joint submission 3 by la Coalición de Organizaciones de Personas con Discapacidad, pages 1-2.

[144] Joint submission 3 by la Coalición de Organizaciones de Personas con Discapacidad, pages 3-4.

[145] Joint submission 3 by la Coalición de Organizaciones de Personas con Discapacidad, page 5.

[146] Joint submission 3 by la Coalición de Organizaciones de Personas con Discapacidad, pages 5-6.

[147] A/HRC/13/15, para.89.11. *Finalize the fifth and sixth due reports to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, without further delay (Norway);* A/HRC/13/15, para.89.68. *Take measures to ensure equitable access of indigenous children, migrant children and those living in rural areas to education and health services and improve their standard of living (Ghana);* A/HRC/13/15, para.89.74. *Increase its efforts in favour of indigenous populations to ensure the satisfaction of their basic needs (water, health, education) and to combat social exclusion affecting them (France).*

[148] Joint submission 4 by IMMA-VIDES International-Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, paras.46-48.

[149] Joint submission 4 by IMMA-VIDES International-Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, para.11.

[150] Coalición de Organizaciones Afrodescendientes (Joint Submission 5), paras.13-14.

[151] Coalición de Organizaciones Afrodescendientes (Joint Submission 5), para.15.

[152] Coalición de Organizaciones Afrodescendientes (Joint Submission 5), paras. 15-17.

[153] Coalición de ONGs (CR-NGOs – Joint Submission 2), paras. 54-66.

[154] Coalición de ONGs (CR-NGOs – Joint Submission 2), paras. 41-48

[155] Joint submission 4 by IMMA-VIDES International-Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, para.11.

[156] Joint submission 4 by IMMA-VIDES International-Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, paras.49-52.